

**August 25, 2015
CITY OF KANNAPOLIS
REQUEST FOR LETTER OF INTEREST**

**THE CITY OF KANNAPOLIS DESIRES TO ENGAGE QUALIFIED PRIVATE
ENGINEERING FIRMS (PEF) TO PROVIDE PLANNING AND DESIGN
SERVICES FOR IRISH BUFFALO CREEK GREENWAY (TIP #C-5161)**

The primary and/or subconsultant firm(s) shall be pre-qualified by NCDOT to perform the following for the Irish Buffalo Creek Greenway Project for planning and design services for the construction of a 2.63 mile segment of the Irish Buffalo Creek Greenway which includes 2.26 miles along Irish Buffalo Creek and the 0.37 mile Oakwood Connector in Cabarrus County:

- 00024 - Bridges-spans under 200'
- 00032 - Categorical exclusions
- 00063 - Environmental assessments/Findings of no significant impacts
- 00066 - Environmental Impact Statements
- 00070 - Erosion and sediment control design
- 00132 - Landscape and Streetscape design
- 00171 - Public Involvement
- 00192 - and 00194 - Right-of-Way acquisition
- 00199 - Route location surveys
- 00243 - Threatened and endangered species survey and studies
- 00247 - Traffic control plans
- 00269 - Urban roadway design
- 00270 - Utility coordination
- 00280 - Wetland and stream delineation
- 00294 - Geotechnical engineering services and specialty services
- 00316 - Multi-use trail design
- 00361 - Boundary surveying
- 00362 - Easement surveying
- 00433 - Tier 1-basic hydrologic and hydraulic design
- 00434 - Tier II-complete hydrologic & hydraulic design

SCOPE OF PROJECT

The Project consists of approximately 2.26 miles of greenway from Orphanage Road along Irish Buffalo Creek to Rogers Lake Road and will also include an approximate 0.37 mile segment that would connect the main greenway along

Irish Buffalo Creek to the new Oakwood Avenue sidewalk project. It is anticipated a bridge will be required for this project crossing Irish Buffalo Creek.

The Engineering firm shall provide engineering, design, and technical services associated with the following project elements:

- Existing condition survey and documentation
- Design Criteria
- Environmental Review and documentation including meetings with NCDOT and other regulatory agencies
- Utility evaluation
- Preliminary design plans
- Engineer's Estimate of cost preliminary Design – submission of Preliminary Design plan, hydrological and hydraulic data, Engineer's estimate and other pertinent data as required to NCDOT for review and approval.
- Final Design – submission of Final Design Plans, contract documentation and specifications for bidding, and Engineer's Estimate.
- Permitting – coordination with county staff, NCDOT, NCDENR (if required), etc.
- Bid Document Development and Bid Services.

The selected firm will report directly to the City of Kannapolis. The selected firm is to administer the contract and to ensure that all work is performed in accordance with the contract requirements.

The PEF will be responsible for providing personnel with the appropriate skills and qualifications to ensure contract compliance. The PEF will be directly responsible for oversight of the project for the town/county. The PEF shall indemnify and save harmless the town/county for claims and liabilities resulting from negligence, errors or omissions of the PEF; including, but not limited to, the engineers, technicians or sub-consultants.

Any firm wishing to be considered must be properly registered with the Office of the Secretary of State and with the North Carolina Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors. Any firm proposing to use corporate subsidiaries or subcontractors must include a statement that these companies are properly registered with the NC Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors. The Engineers performing the work and in responsible charge of the work must be registered Professional Engineers in the State of North Carolina and must have a good ethical and professional standing. It will be the responsibility of the selected private firm to verify the registration of any corporate subsidiary or subcontractor prior to submitting a Letter of Interest. The firm must have the financial ability to undertake the work and assume the liability. The selected firm will be required to

furnish proof of Professional Liability insurance coverage in the minimum amount of \$1,000,000. The firm must have an adequate accounting system to identify costs chargeable to the Project.

The proposed method of payment for this contract is lump sum.

The selection of a private engineering firm to provide Survey and design on this specific project will be handled in accordance with the following process:

1. Submission by the private engineering firm of a Letter of Interest (LOI).
2. The City of Kannapolis may short list private engineering firms to a minimum of three firms.
3. Pre-interview meeting and oral interview at the option of the City of Kannapolis.
4. The City of Kannapolis will select a private engineering firm to provide the Planning and Design Services.

SMALL PROFESSIONAL SERVICE FIRM (SPSF) PARTICIPATION

The Department encourages the use of Small Professional Services Firms (SPSF). Small businesses determined to be eligible for participation in the SPSF program are those meeting size standards defined by Small Business Administration (SBA) regulations, 13 CFR Part 121 in Sector 54 under the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS). The SPSF program is a race, ethnicity, and gender neutral program designed to increase the availability of contracting opportunities for small businesses on federal, state or locally funded contracts. SPSF participation is not contingent upon the funding source.

The Firm, at the time the Letter of Interest is submitted, shall submit a listing of all known SPSF firms that will participate in the performance of the identified work. The participation shall be submitted on the NCDOT's Prime Form RS-2 and/or Subconsultant Form RS-2.

Form RS-2 forms may be accessed on the NCDOT website at <https://apps.dot.state.nc.us/quickfind/forms/Default.aspx>.

The SPSF must be qualified with the Department to perform the work for which they are listed.

Real-time information about firms doing business with the NCDOT and firms that are SPSF certified through North Carolina's Unified Certification Program is

available in the Directory of Transportation Firms. The Directory can be accessed by the link on the Department's homepage or by entering <https://partner.ncdot.gov/VendorDirectory/default.html> in the address bar of your web browser.

The listing of an individual firm in the Department's directory shall not be construed as an endorsement of the firm.

PREQUALIFICATION

The Department maintains on file the qualifications and key personnel for each approved discipline, as well as any required samples of work. Each year on the anniversary date of the company, the firm shall renew their prequalified disciplines. If your firm has not renewed its application as required by your anniversary date or if your firm is not currently prequalified, please submit an application to the Department prior to submittal of your letter of interest. An application may be accessed at <https://connect.ncdot.gov/business/Prequal/Pages/Private-Consulting-Firm.aspx>. Having this data on file with the Department eliminates the need to resubmit this data with each letter of interest.

Even though specific DBE/MBE/WBE goals are not required for this project, the Department of Transportation is committed to providing opportunity for small and disadvantaged businesses to perform on its contracts through established Department goals. The Firm, sub-consultant and sub-firm shall not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, age, disability or sex in the performance of this contract.

EVALUATION

Firms submitting LOIs to perform the survey and design on this specific project will be evaluated based upon certain considerations. The following considerations, with the weighted importance, will be utilized to select a minimum of three firms from those submitting an LOI:

1. Firm's experience, knowledge, familiarity and past performance with survey and design services – 25%
2. The experience of the firm's proposed staff to perform the type of work required – 25%
3. Firm's understanding of the project specific issues and their responsibility in delivering services for the advertised project – 50%

After reviewing qualifications, if firms are equal on the evaluation review, then those qualified firms with proposed SPSF participation will be given priority consideration.

FORMAT FOR SUBMISSION OF A CITY OF KANNAPOLIS LETTER OF INTEREST

All letters of interest are limited to 11 pages (RS-2 forms are not included in the page count) inclusive of the cover letter, and shall be typed on 8 1/2" x 11" sheets, single-spaced, one-sided. Fold out pages are not allowed. In order to reduce costs and to facilitate recycling; binders, dividers, tabs, etc. are prohibited. One staple in the upper left-hand corner is preferred. **Letters of interest containing more than eleven (11) pages will not be considered.** A total of two (2) copies of the LOI should be submitted.

Section I - Cover/Introductory Letter

The introductory letter should be addressed to Wilmer Melton, III, Director of Public Works. Said letter is limited to two (2) pages and should contain the following elements of information:

- Expression of firm's interest in the work;
- Statement of whether firm is on register or submitting information with letter of interest;
- Date of most recent private engineering firm qualification;
- Statement regarding firms' possible conflict(s) of interest for the work; and
- Summation of information contained in the letter of interest including an email address and telephone number for the firm's contact person.

Section II - Evaluation Factors

This section is limited to four (4) pages and should contain information regarding evaluation and other factors listed in the advertisement such as:

- A brief synopsis of the firm's previous Survey and Design Services experience that is focused to the type of project advertised for services [performed within last three (3) years];

- The number of employees within the firm;
- A brief description of the firm's approach to performing Survey and Design Services for this work, including the firm's understanding of their responsibility with regard to safety, contract administration, environmental responsibility, claims, and project delivery;
- The proposed personnel to be assigned to the work by discipline, their availability date on the project.
- Identify project personnel/sub-consultants' qualifications and experience as related to this work;
- Unique qualifications of key team members; and
- Any innovative approaches to be used.

Section III - Supportive Information

This section is limited to five (5) pages and should contain the following information:

- Capacity Chart/Graph (available work force);
- Organizational chart indicating personnel to be assigned by discipline;
- Resumes of key personnel;
- Names, classifications, and location(s) of the firms' North Carolina employees and resources to be assigned to the advertised work; and
- Other information.

Appendices -- CONSULTANT CERTIFICATION Form RS-2

Completed Form RS-2 forms **SHALL** be submitted with the firm's letter of interest.

This section is limited to the number of pages required to provide the requested information.

Submit Form RS-2 forms for the following:

- Prime Consultant firm (Prime Consultant Form RS-2 Rev 1/14/08), and;
- ANY/ALL subconsultant firms (Subconsultant Form RS-2 Rev 1/15/08) to be or anticipated to be utilized by your firm.

Complete and **sign** each Form RS-2 (instructions are listed on the form)

In the event the firm has no subconsultant, it is required that this be indicated on the Subconsultant Form RS-2 by entering the word “None” or the number “ZERO” and signing the form.

The required forms are available at:

<https://apps.dot.state.nc.us/quickfind/forms/Default.aspx>.

SUBMISSION OF LETTER OF INTEREST

Private engineering firms are invited to have letters of interest for furnishing Survey and Design Services to the City of Kannapolis by **2 p.m. on September 15, 2015**. **Letters of interest received after this deadline will not be considered.**

Firms submitting letters of interest are encouraged to carefully check them for conformance to the requirements stated above. If Letters of Interest (LOIs) do not meet ALL of these requirements, or to any address other than shown below they will be disqualified. No exception will be granted.

The mailing address is:

Wilmer Melton, III
Director of Public Works
City of Kannapolis
401 Laureate Way
Kannapolis, NC 28081

To hand deliver:

Wilmer Melton, III
Director of Public Works
City of Kannapolis
1401 Bethpage Road
Kannapolis, NC 28081

Any questions concerning the advertisement should be directed to wmelton@kannapolisnc.gov or by telephone at 704-920-4200;

If you feel information provided is inadequate to submit a letter of interest, please contact Wilmer Melton, III.

NOTIFICATION

The short-listed firms (if the City elects to short-list firms) will be notified by **September 22, 2015**. Notification will not be sent to firms not short-listed.

In the event the City of Kannapolis elects to hold Oral Interviews, interviews will be held during the week of September 28, 2015.

The firm selected will be notified by **October 2, 2015**. Notification will not be sent to firms not selected.

The City of Kannapolis reserves the right to reject any and all Letters of Interest.